

Claim 20 is directed to a package for an optical detector including a plastic window portion of the housing; and a protective coating on the window portion permitting transmission of light of a wavelength of around 400 nanometers through the window portion while protecting the window portion from deterioration.

Claim 15 is directed to an integrated circuit including a semiconductor chip including a light sensitive device; a transparent plastic layer over the light sensitive device; and a protective coating on the plastic layer selected from silicon oxide and aluminum nitrate.

To begin with, the Reeh et al. references discloses a light-radiating semiconductor component with a luminescent conversion element. The present invention is directed specifically to a light detector. The light detector does not include an element which is a luminescence conversion element. The semiconductor body 1 which includes a light emitting diode is encapsulated in a luminescence conversion encapsulation 5 in Figure 1 or includes a luminescence conversion layer 4 in Figures 2 and 3. The luminescence conversion encapsulation 5 and the luminescence conversion layer 4 are treated with luminescence material 6. As noted by the Office Action in Column 14, lines 29-40, the luminescence conversion encapsulation 5 and luminescence conversion layer 4 "have light-diffusion particles, advantageously so-called diffusers. Examples of such diffusers are mineral fillers in particular CaF_2 , TiO_2 , SiO_2 , CaCO_3 , or BaSO_4 or else organic pigments. These materials can be added in a similar manner to the above-mentioned plastics." Thus, the silicon oxide is not a protective layer but is merely a diffuser placed within the transparent plastic layers 4 and 15 which are "for example, epoxy resin, resists or polymethyl methacrylates." (Column 12, lines 1 and 2)

Neither the Office Action nor the references teach the presence of an appropriate material which a) acts as a protective layer against ozone deterioration of Claim 1, b) a protective coating on and protecting the window portion from deterioration of Claim 20, or c) a protective coating on the plastic layer selected from the group of silicon oxide and aluminum nitrate. The inclusion of silicon oxide as a light diffuser in the epoxy housing of the light-emitting diode to diffuse light is not a teaching of a package having a protective layer for an optical detector as described in Claims 1, 15 and 20.

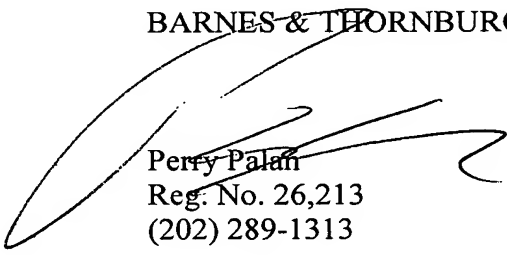
Upon review of the above arguments, it will be evident that claims 1-20 are allowable over the art of record and thus passage of this case to issue is hereby requested.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and

shortages in any fees be charged, or overpayment in any fees be credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Deposit Account No. 02-1010 (33851/41804).

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure